

bringing their home district extreme pride in their academic excellence, desire to serve, and commitment to patriotism.

I take this time to congratulate Harrison Brownlee of Hot Springs on his acceptance of an appointment to the United States Military Academy and Cody Lambert of Redfield on his acceptance of an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. These young Americans embody qualities of academic excellence and service above self which are necessary for military service.

These two young men are a tremendous source of pride not just for their hometowns, but for the entire Fourth Congressional District. Their commitment to excellence is to be commended, but it is their love of country, defense of liberty, and pursuit of a freer America that truly sets them apart from all others.

I take this time to honor them for their successes, encourage them on this new pursuit, and thank them for their example to the rest of the country of what a patriot truly is.

#### BAYSHORE HERITAGE BYWAY

#### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2021*

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I am here today to speak about a historical and scenic road in South Jersey, the Bayshore Heritage Byway. Earlier this year in February, the Federal Highway Administration selected the Bayshore Heritage Byway as a National Scenic Byway. This is a wonderful accomplishment and I congratulate all of those who have worked towards achieving this goal. The Bayshore Heritage Byway was nominated on two intrinsic qualities: its natural beauty and historical components. It will now be featured in a commemorative 2021 National Scenic Byways Program Designations Booklet and will also be listed on the America's Byways website. The Bayshore Heritage Byway is full of beauty and history and I am proud that a South Jersey landmark has been given this distinct recognition.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2021*

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes because I was under medical care. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 173, YEA on Roll Call No. 174; NAY on Roll Call No. 175; NAY on Roll Call No. 176; NAY on Roll Call No. 177; NAY on Roll Call No. 178; YEA on Roll Call No. 179; and NAY on Roll Call No. 180.

COMMEMORATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELEVATION OF ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

#### HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2021*

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor and recognize Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople on the historic 30th Anniversary of his election on October 22, 1991, and his elevation on November 2, 1991, as the 270th Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome, and Ecumenical Patriarch.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew was born in the village of Zeytinli on the island of Imbros to Christos and Merope Archontonis. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew belongs to the historically indigenous Rum people, descendants of the Eastern Roman Empire/Byzantine Empire Greek community in Turkey.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is recognized in the United States and abroad as a leader in the quest for world peace, greater religious understanding, and respect for the Earth's environment. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is the spiritual leader of nearly 300,000,000 Orthodox Christians around the world and millions of Orthodox Christians in the United States, with a significant population here in Illinois and the City of Chicago.

On his first official visit to the United States in 1997, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew received the Congressional Gold Medal, presented by the United States on behalf of Congress in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to religious understanding and peace. His Holiness was recognized by the United States in a manner reserved for a very small number of world leaders.

I am grateful for all the good that His All Holiness does for Americans and those around the world. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew serves as a reminder to us all that the positive efforts of just one person can be beneficial to countless lives of others.

#### CLARIFICATION TO REPRESENTATIVE LIZ CHENEY'S COMMENTS

#### HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2021*

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address what I think, and what I think the record will establish, are errors pertaining to my inquiry into circumstances surrounding the killing of Ashli Babbitt.

There are rules of decorum in the House of Representatives. In debate, members are to "avoid characterizing another Member's personal intent or motives and discussing personalities." Another rule is that members are to "refrain from speaking disrespectfully of the Speaker, other Members." When made on the floor, such disrespectful behavior and boorish conduct is subject to objection to take down the words. But no such process applies when rude, impolite and candidly false statements are made about one member by another off the floor. So, I take this opportunity now to address and correct the incorrect statements ut-

tered by Rep. LIZ CHENEY, the now former conference chair.

On June 16, 2021, Rep. CHENEY tweeted the following: "On January 6, as the violent mob advanced on the House chamber, I was standing near @RepGosar and helped him open his gas mask. The Capitol Police led us to safety. It is disgusting and despicable to see Gosar lie about that day and smear the men and women who defended us."

First, I did not wear a gas mask on January 6. Second, at no time have I "smeared" any of the "men and women who defended us" nor did I "lie about that day." What I have done is ask questions and demanded transparency. I did express concerns over the actions of one Capitol Police officer, the one who shot and killed Ashli Babbitt. Merely questioning the actions of one officer does not equate to questioning (much less "smeared") "all" the "men and women who defended" us, as stated by Ms. CHENEY. This is a false comparison and not true at all.

I will not be intimidated by false implications. I will continue to seek transparency and find out why, who, and how the officer that killed Ashli Babbitt did what he did. There could be good, solid reasons for using lethal force at that moment. Perhaps he thought Ashli was armed with a knife, a bat, or a gun. Maybe he simply panicked. Unfortunately, with the evidence currently released, we have one video (taken by a CNN collaborator who, while filming for CNN, urged people to "burn" the Capitol) and that video does not show a gun, a bat, or any weapon whatsoever. The video simply shows an unarmed woman starting to climb a window. If there is evidence to the contrary, I have called for its immediate release. I call for all the evidence, all video from that day, whether it incriminates or exonerates. The goal, my goal, is truth.

I have maintained my demand for release of all surveillance video. As it stands, all the American public has, in terms of evidence, is that (1) Ashli Babbitt was in the process of a misdemeanor (entering federal property without permission); (2) Ashli was unarmed; (3) Ashli was a 14-year military veteran who loved her country, the Constitution, and wanted election integrity; (4) no verbal instructions or warnings were given; (5) no escalation of force continuum was considered or used prior to using lethal force; and (6) no aid was rendered by the officer once he killed Ashli. All of these factors suggest an unlawful use of force, and the American public has a right to find out if that is true. Getting to the bottom of this incident is not an indictment of all Capitol police officers and such a suggestion is not logical or fact based.

I have spoken to law enforcement experts. I have watched the only video that is publicly available of the shooting of Ashli Babbitt. The officer that shot Ms. Babbitt is seen on the video hiding in a vestibule. All that can be seen are his hands holding a loaded side arm pointing at Ms. Babbitt. For approximately 14 seconds. The only video available shows no verbal or non-verbal warnings. No effort to tell Ms. Babbitt not to climb through the window. No effort to push her back or use non-lethal force of any type. Rather, after hiding in a vestibule and aiming for 14 seconds, the officer fires one round from the side, killing Ms. Babbitt. Thus, this officer went from "officer presence" straight to lethal force, and skipped verbal commands, soft controls, hard controls